

OES-Director

From: callme4hats@yahoo.com%inter2 [callme4hats@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2005 2:27 PM
To: amsdairycomments -AMSE2K; Johanns, Mike
Subject: Dennis Zelmer - Milk in the Pacific Northwest and Arizona-Las Vegas marketing areas:
Docket No. AO-368-A32; AO-271-A37; DA-03-04B

Dear USDA:

I am writing in OPPOSITION to the proposed regulation of producer-handlers.

I am very troubled that USDA would enact rules that increase the price of milk to the consumer and that limit competition in the marketplace.

I urge USDA to reconsider its recommendation and to act in way the respects both consumers and the investment of time and money that producer-handlers have put into their family businesses.

The proposed regulation changes amount to an attack on small business in favor of the giants. The regulation will put producer-handlers in our town out of business. This rule would change regulations that have existed for over 70 years. Large national and regional dairy cooperatives and milk processors are the driving force behind this proposal. Their purpose is to restrict competition and this will hurt all consumers. Competition is a core value of the free enterprise system. Please give the small guys a chance. They only have 4% of the market!

Sincerely,
Dennis Zelmer
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